

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 03193 100946Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08  
INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00  
OMB-01 /098 W  
-----052891 100956Z /23

P R 091725Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1785  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USMISSION USUN NY  
USMISSION SINAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 3193

E. O. 11652

TAGS: ELAB PINT IS  
SUBJ: NEW PROBLEM SIGN THE LABOR FRONT WITH POLITICAL  
IMPLIOTIONS

1. FACED WITH A SPREADING SHIPPING AND PORT WORKERS  
STRIKE (NOW IN ITS SEVENTH WEEK) AND STRIKE THREATS  
FROM EL-AL EMPLOYEES, AIRPORT WORKERS AND AN ARRAY OF  
CIVIL SERVANTS AS WELL AS INDUSTRIAL WORKERS, THE  
FINANCE MINISTER AND THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONER  
ARE MAKING TOUGH NOISES. THESE GOVERNMENT REACTIONS SO  
FAR HAVE LITTLE CREDIBILITY BUT IT IS A FOREGONE CONSLUSION  
THAT STRIKES AND TOUGH BARGAINING LIE AHFEAD AS THE  
APRIL 1 DEADLINE APPROACHES FOR THE OVERALL AGREEMENTS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 03193 100946Z

COVERING BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS.

2. ONE OF THE MORE TROUBLESOME IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS  
IS THE DEMAND OF THE POSTAL AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS  
TO BE PLACED UNDER A SPECIAL POSTAL AND COMMUNICATIONS  
AUTHORITY WHICH CAN SET SALARIES OUTSIDE THE CIVIL

SERVICE SYSTEM. THEY ALSO WANT THE SAME 40 PERCENT INCREASE GRANTED TO THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY WORKERS WHEN THEY WERE PLACED UNDER A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM. FOLLOWING BRIEF WARNING STRIKE, THE GOVERNMENT AND HISTADRUT HAVE NOW AGREED THAT THE ISSUE BE ARBITRATED AND THAT MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION-ABSORPTION DAVID LEVY, THE FORMER HEAD OF THE LIKUD FACTION OF THE HISTADRUT, A HERUT MEMBER, AND MILITANT TRADE UNIONIST, SHOULD BE THE ARBITRATOR. WHATEVER DECISION HE WILL MAKE WILL SET A PATTERN FOR OTHER CIVIL SERVICE WAGE DEMANDS. MOREOVER, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS MEIR AMIT HAS ALREADY INDICATED TO THE CIVIL SERVICE UNION LEADERS IN HIS MINISTRY THAT HE AGREES THAT THEIR WAGE DEMANDS ARE LEGITIMATE. THUS A FAIRLY GENEROUS WAGE INCREASE IS ALMOST CERTAINLY EXPECTED. THIS MOVE, ACCORDING TO HISTADRUT SOURCES, COULD WELL DEPRIVE FINANCE MINISTER EHRLICH OF HIS GUIDING ROLE IN SETTING INCOMES POLICY. IT ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL ALSO MAKE IT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT FOR HISTADRUT TO RESTRAIN HIGHER WAGE DEMANDS OF THE MORE MILITANT WORKS COUNCILS AND PROFESSIONAL GROUPS.

3. OTHER EVIDENCE THAT THE CABINET IS FAR FROM UNITED ON WAGE POLICY WAS A RECENT STATEMENT BY EDUCATION MINISTER ZEBULON HAMMER (NRP) SUPPORTING THE 30 PERCENT WAGE DEMAND BY THE TEACHERS AND

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TEL AV 03193 100946Z

A SIMILAR ENDORSEMENT BY JUSTICE MINISTER SHMUEL TAMIR (DMC) OF A 70 PERCENT WAGE DEMAND OF JUSTICES AND OFFICERS OF THE COURTS.

4. PRIME MINISTER BEGIN UPON HIS RETURN FROM WASHINGTON CAN THUS BE EXPECTED TO HAVE A HARD FIGHT ON HIS HANDS TRYING TO RESTORE TO EHRLICH THE PRINCIPAL AUTHORITY FOR INCOME POLICY AND TO ESTABLISH CABINET UNITY ON WAGE AND SOCIAL POLICY. EVEN HIS TOUGH POSITION ON 242 AND HIS OBTAINING A SOMEWHAT GREATER ROLE FOR HERUT IN WZO AND THE JEWISH AGENCY ARE UNLIKELY TO APPEASE THE HERUT RANK AND FILE, WHO FEEL VERY STRONGLY ABOUT THESE INTERNAL ISSUES THAT THEY ARE AT THE VERGE OF REVOLT. LEWIS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL STABILITY, CARGO HANDLING, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, LABOR STRIKES, PORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TELAV03193  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780107-1019  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780385/aaaacuif.tel  
**Line Count:** 108  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 86584cca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3381027  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW PROBLEM SIGN THE LABOR FRONT WITH POLITICAL IMPLIOTIONS  
**TAGS:** ELAB, PINT, EWWT, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/86584cca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014